

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows (NOTE: for ease of identification of the relevant paragraphs, paragraph numbers conform to the paragraph numbers in the published application US 2002/0148126 A1, copy enclosed).

Insert prior to paragraph [0001] the following sentence:

*Q1* This application claims priority benefit of provisional patent application number 60/271,749 filed February 27, 2001.

Please amend paragraph [0018] as follows:

*Q2* The outer face is preferably clear plastic and measures 4 1/4 inches in diameter. The round inner face ~~is composed of~~ in this example, is a white light gauge metal with a 1 1/2 inch red end arrow indicator. This inner face bottom center indicates 0 degrees. From right to left the inner face is marked every 5/100 and from left to right the inner face is marked every 5/100. The gauge is numbered from 0 to 90 degrees in a semicircular arrangement both ways.

After paragraph [0023], please amend to read:

What is claimed is:

Please rewrite the ABSTRACT as follows:

*Q3* In certain embodiments consistent with the ~~The present invention is used to detect the grade on all slopes in highway construction using a degree gauge. A~~ a slope measurement instrument has a magnetic base with an attached compartment. The compartment has an inner face and a clear outer face, with the inner face having indicia of angular graduations thereon, the indicia being viewable through the clear outer face. The angular graduations are arranged in a semi-circular pattern with a zero grade position at the bottom and increasing angles indicated on either side of the bottom. An indicator needle is pivotally suspended so that gravitational forces acting on the needle cause the needle to point to the zero grade position when the instrument positioned at a zero degree

as

grade. A fluid is disposed within the compartment between the inner face and the outer face to stabilize movement of the needle.

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